Garden of Eden

By Interfaith Studies and Research Center

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In the Islamic traditions we don't find any hints that the Garden of Eden or the Paradise existed on Earth. General impression of the Muslim scholars is that the aforesaid paradise was somewhere in the Heaven, from where Adam and Eve were ordered to get down on Earth along with Satan (Snake of the Gen. 3:1) who was cursed by Allah, but given a respite to abide on Earth till the doomsday. Muslims, therefore, never took any interest to locate the site of the Garden of Eden on Earth.

The Biblical scholars, on the other hand, believe that the Garden of Eden existed in the east, which perhaps implies east of Canaan or Palestine. Consequently, in spite of prolonged search to locate the actual site of the Garden of Aden, they met with no success at all. Anyhow, different scholars suggested different sites for the Garden of Eden, and a cursory review of such suggestions may be of some interest to the seekers of the truth. Such alternate suggestions for the Garden of Eden are given hereunder:

1. That the Garden of Eden was by the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in Iraq somewhere near Ur or where the Tigris and Euphrates join together before flowing into the Persian Gulf.

- 2. That the possible site was somewhere in the Persian Gulf which has eventually been eroded by the sea and lies submerged under the sea near Iraqi borders.
- 3. That the Garden of Eden was in Wadi Arar, somewhere between Hail and Euphrates in northern Arabia. The possible course of river Pishon has been suggested from Ha'il (identified as Havilah) to Jabba, to Jauf to Wadi Ubaidiyah and to Euphrates.
- 4. That the Garden of Eden was on Mount Zion.
- 5. That the possible site of the Garden of Eden was in Turkey from where the Tigris and Euphrates
- 6.Some recent suggestions show the Garden of Eden in the United States; (a) in western Missouri, (b) in the

southeast along the Florida, Georgia, and Alabama

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